GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:857
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
MODERNISATION OF ORDNANCE DEPOTS
MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had decided to modernise all the Central Ordnance Depots of the country in the year 1994;

(b) if so, whether all the ordnance depots except one depot belong to the Second World War period;

(c) the name of agencies to whom the modernisation programme of these depots was assigned;

(d) whether the Government had received the reports from these agencies in the year 1996;

(e) if so, the reasons for delay in undertaking modernisation work of the depots;

(f) the time limit prescribed by the Government for completion of modernisation work of these depots; and (g) the approximate expenditure likely to be incurred on each of them?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) It was decided to modernise all the seven Central Ordnance Depots located at Agra, Mumbai, Chheoki, Delhi Cantt., Dehu Road, Jabalpur and Kanpur in a phased manner. However, to begin with it was decided to take up modernisation of Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur.

(b) All the Central Ordnance Depots except one Depot at Mumbai existing in the country belong to the Second World War period.

(c) & (d) : Two Public Sector Undertakingsviz. M/s Mettalurgical and Engineering Consultant (India) Limited and M/s National Industrial Development Corporation Limited were assignedthe job of preparation of the Project Reports for modernisation of Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur and they submitted their Draft Project Reports in November 1996.

(e) As the modernisation of Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur is the first project of its type, the User Directorates took time to familiarize themselves with the requirement and technical problems involved in the modernisation project. This has caused delay in taking up this work.

(f) & (g) : The implementation of the project of modernisation of Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur involving an expenditure of Rs. 187 crores approximately is likely to be completed by December, 2003. With the experience gained in the preparatory and pre-project stage of this project, the projects for modernisation of the remaining Central Ordnance Depots will be executed expeditiously. At this stage, it is not possible to intimate the expenditure, likely to be incurred on modernisation of these remaining 6 Central Ordnance Depots.